

**Remarks/Arguments:**

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 1. Claims 1 and 2 are pending.

**Allowed Claim**

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's finding that independent claim 2 is allowed.

**Claim Rejection Under Section 103**

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato (U.S. Patent No. 5,185,712) in view of Hashimoto (Patent Application Publication U.S. 2001-0050716 A1). By this Amendment, Applicant respectfully traverses the Section 103(a) rejection.

Claim 1, the only rejected claim, is directed to a view finder and includes the following features:

- light generating means,
- **a lens that converts light emitted from the light generating means into substantially parallel light,**
- **display panel of a reflecting type that reflects the substantially parallel light as a display panel,** and
- a magnification lens for enlarging the display image observed by an observer.

Applicant contends that the view finder defined by claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the Sato Patent and the Hashimoto Reference at least based on the requirements of a lens that converts light emitted from the light generating means into substantially parallel light, and a display panel of a reflecting type that reflects the substantially parallel light as a display image. It is Applicant's contention that the combination of the features of the lens and display panel as

defined in claim 1 are neither taught nor suggested in the Sato Patent and the Hashimoto Reference, either separately or in combination.

The Sato Patent in general relates to a liquid crystal viewfinder that includes a plurality of liquid crystal display sections for respectively displaying images of a plurality of colors, and an eyepiece. The liquid crystal display sections are arranged on the same plane along an outer side surface of an image pickup apparatus. The eyepiece is arranged outside the liquid crystal display section in such a manner that the optical axis of the eyepiece is said to be substantially parallel in the direction in which the liquid crystal display sections are arranged. An image light reflecting mirror is arranged on the incidence side of the eyepiece so as to reflect an image light beam from one of the liquid crystal display sections to the eyepiece. Image light synthesizing mirrors are arranged between the image light reflecting mirror and the eyepiece so as to reflect image light beams from the other liquid crystal display sections to the eyepiece and to transmit the image light beam reflected by the image light reflecting mirror.

The view finder as described above is shown, for example, in Figure 2 of the Sato Patent. But there is simply no teaching or suggestion in the Sato Patent of the features of Applicant's claimed invention of a lens that converts light emitted from the light generating means into substantially parallel light, and a display panel of a reflecting type that reflects the substantially parallel light as a display panel. These deficiencies of the Sato Patent are not rectified by the Hashimoto Reference.

The Hashimoto Patent relates to a liquid crystal display apparatus having a liquid crystal display panel 1 (Figs. 3 and 4), and a back light means constructed of a fluorescent lamp 2, a reflector 3, and a light guiding plate 4 having a triangular shape which is provided on a rear side of the liquid crystal display panel 1. A light diffusing plate 5, such as a prism plate, a diffusing film, etc. is provided between the liquid crystal display panel 1 and a light emitting face of the light guiding plate 4 of the back light means. A circuit substrate 6 is provided for driving the liquid crystal display panel 1 and is placed on a rear side of the light guiding plate 4 of the back light means. This preferred embodiment of Hashimoto is shown in Figure 4. Figure 3 shows what has been identified as a conventional liquid crystal display apparatus of a reflecting type with a reflecting plate 52 provided on the rear of a liquid crystal display panel 51, such that the reflecting plate 52 comes in close contact with the rear side of the liquid

crystal panel 51. A circuit substrate 53 operates the liquid crystal display panel 51 and is provided on a rear face side of the reflecting plate 52. According to the explanation in the Hashimoto Reference at page 1, paragraph 0012, when the display apparatus is used under outdoor sunlight, external light such as sunlight is eradiated onto a display face of the liquid crystal display apparatus. This light beam is penetrated through the liquid crystal display panel 51 and is eradiated onto the reflecting plate 52 on the rear side. The light ray reflected on the reflecting plate 52 is eradiated into the rear side of the liquid crystal panel 51.

But nowhere in the Hashimoto Reference is there any teaching or suggestion of a view finder as defined in Applicant's claim 1 having a lens that converts light emitted from the light generating means into substantially parallel light, and a display panel of a reflecting type that reflects the substantially parallel light as a display image. Because these features are lacking in the Hashimoto Reference, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the Hashimoto Reference, as well as the Sato Patent. Applicant therefore requests that the Section 103(a) rejection be withdrawn.

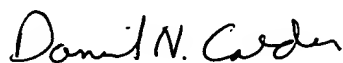
In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is in condition for allowance, and claim 2 has been found allowed. Therefore,

Appln. No.: 09/386,991  
Amendment Dated: July 26, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of: May 24, 2004

MTS-3130US

reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717  
Daniel N. Calder, Reg. No. 27,424  
Attorneys for Applicant

DNC/ds

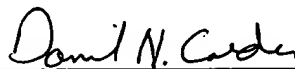
Dated: July 26, 2004

P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482  
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby  
authorized to charge payment to Deposit  
Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated  
with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail,  
with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA  
22313-1450 on:

July 26, 2004



---

DAS\_I:\MTS\3130\AMEND\_01.DOC